

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

1-20. (Canceled)

21. (New) A vehicle control system, comprising:

an interface module for interfacing with an electronic input and output device of a vehicle, wherein the electronic input and output devices are operated pursuant to a feature set of electronically operable functions; and

a feature set module for detachably coupling to said interface module, wherein said feature set module comprises codes for defining the feature set of electronically operable functions, wherein the electronic input and output devices of the vehicle are operated pursuant to the feature set of electronically operable functions when the feature set module is coupled to the interface module.

22. (New) The vehicle control system of claim 21, wherein the codes for defining the feature set of electronically operable functions are remotely programmed.

23. (New) The vehicle control system of claim 22, wherein the codes for defining the feature set of electronically operable functions are remotely programmed by a computer.

24. (New) The vehicle control system of claim 21, wherein the feature set module further comprises:

a memory device for storing the codes for defining the feature set of electronically operable functions, wherein the memory device is remotely accessed.

25. (New) The vehicle control system of claim 24, wherein the memory device is an electrically erasable programmable read-only memory.

26. (New) The vehicle control system of claim 21, further comprising:

a remote transmitter for performing one of remotely controlling and programming a code associated with a function of the feature set of electronically operable functions.

27. (New) The vehicle control system of claim 26, wherein the function is determined by a setting of the remote transmitter.

28. (New) The vehicle control system of claim 26, wherein the remote transmitter remotely programs the feature set module to provide a different function to the feature set of electronically operable functions.

29. (New) The vehicle control system of claim 26, wherein the remote transmitter comprises:

a transceiver for performing one of transmitting signals to the interface module and receiving signals from the interface module.

30. (New) The vehicle control system of claim 21, wherein the interface module comprises:

a transceiver for wirelessly receiving signals from an external device.

31. (New) The vehicle control system of claim 30, wherein the transceiver is a radio frequency (RF) transceiver.

32. (New) The vehicle control system of claim 21, further comprising:

a software cartridge for detachably coupling to the interface module, wherein the software cartridge comprises codes for defining the feature set of electronically operable functions.

33. (New) The vehicle control system of claim 32, wherein the software cartridge is remotely programmed.

34. (New) The vehicle control system of claim 21, wherein the interface module receives an external signal via telematics.

35. (New) A method of remotely communicating with a vehicle control system comprising an interface module for interfacing with an electronic input and output device of a vehicle, and a feature set module for detachably coupling to said interface module, wherein said feature set module comprises codes for defining a feature set of electronically operable functions to operate the electronic input and output devices when the feature set module is coupled to the interface module, comprising the steps of:

receiving codes, at the interface module, for performing one of programming and controlling a function of the feature set of electronically operable functions; and

executing the received codes, at the interface module, for performing one of programming and controlling a function of the feature set of electronically operable functions.

36. (New) The method of claim 35, wherein the received codes are transmitted wirelessly by one of a remote transmitter and computer.

37. (New) The method of claim 35, wherein the received codes are received at a wireless interface.

38. (New) The method of claim 35, further comprising:

storing, at the interface module, the received codes in a memory.

39. (New) The method of claim 35, further comprising:

transmitting, from the interface module, a signal associated with the received codes to a remote transmitter in communication with the vehicle control system.

40. (New) A method of performing one of controlling and programming a vehicle control system comprising an interface module for interfacing with an electronic input and output device of a vehicle, and a feature set module for detachably coupling to said interface module, wherein said feature set module comprises codes for defining a feature set of electronically operable functions to operate the electronic input and output devices when the feature set module is coupled to the interface module, comprising the steps of:

determining, at a remote transmitter, a code to be transmitted to the interface module for performing one of controlling and programming, wherein the code to be transmitted is associated with a function in the feature set of electronically operable functions; and

transmitting, to the interface module, the determined code for performing one of controlling and programming.

41. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein the code is determined by a setting of the remote transmitter.

42. (New) A vehicle control system, comprising:

an interface module for interfacing with an electronic input and output device of a vehicle, wherein the electronic input and output devices are operated pursuant to a feature set of electronically operable functions; and

a software cartridge for detachably coupling to said interface module, wherein said software cartridge comprises codes for defining the feature set of electronically operable functions, wherein the electronic input and output devices of the vehicle are

operated pursuant to the feature set of electronically operable functions when the software cartridge is coupled to the interface module

43. (New) The vehicle control system of claim 42, wherein the software cartridge is remotely programmed.